

What is claimed is:

1. A Fourier transform infrared spectrometer including an optical element made of a material with deliquescence property, comprising:

5           a chamber for retaining the optical element, and

              a drying unit attached to the chamber and having a cooling portion provided in the chamber for condensing moisture in the chamber and a heating portion provided outside the chamber for discharging the moisture.

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2. A Fourier transforming infrared spectrometer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said drying unit is a Peltier element.

15           3. A Fourier transforming infrared spectrometer as claimed in claim 2, further comprising a first power supply line for the drying unit and a second power supply line for the Fourier transforming infrared spectrometer so that the drying unit can be operated separately.

20           4. A Fourier transforming infrared spectrometer as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a drying agent disposed in the chamber.

25           5. A Fourier transformer infrared spectrometer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said drying unit further includes a passage between the cooling portion and the heating portion for discharging the moisture therethrough.

30           6. A Fourier transformer infrared spectrometer as claimed in claim 5, wherein said drying unit further includes a moisture

absorbent disposed in the passage for collecting the moisture at the cooling portion and transferring the moisture to the heating portion to evaporate the moisture at the heating portion.